



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-14 ADS-00 SR-04 AID-07 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 EB-08 OES-09 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 /118 W

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P 011731Z FEB 80

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1961

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY KABUL POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 01647

E.O. 12065: GDS 2/1/86 (BUCHE, JOHN) OR-0

TAGS: PK, SREF, SHUM, AF

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO AFGHAN REFUGEES

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REFERENCES: (A) GENEVA 1165, (B) GENEVA 1435

1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. MISSION OFFICER SPOKE WITH

HAD RECENTLY RETURNED FROM TWO-WEEK VISIT TO  
PAKISTAN.

3. SAID THERE ARE 438,000 REGISTERED REFUGEES IN  
PAKISTAN. GOP ESTIMATE OF 500,000 INCLUDED THOSE NOT YET  
REGISTERED. EXPLAINED IT SOMETIMES TAKES UP TO  
TWO WEEKS BEFORE REFUGEES REGISTER BECAUSE OF TRAVEL TIME  
FROM BORDER TO CAMPS AND BECAUSE REGISTRATION DONE MANUALLY.  
EVENTUALLY ALL REFUGEES REGISTER BECAUSE GOP WILL NOT  
PROVIDE FOOD TO THOSE UNREGISTERED. ESTIMATES

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ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF REFUGEES IN NWP AND REMAINDER IN

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BALUCHISTAN. HE SAID PRESIDENT ZIA'S STATEMENT THAT REFUGEE POPULATION COULD GROW TO 1 MILLION BY APRIL 31 DID NOT APPEAR EXAGGERATED BUT MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON AMOUNT OF FIGHTING AND SEVERITY OF CONTROL AT BORDER.

4. [ ] GOP INFORMED HIM THAT ICRC/LICROSS WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ABOUT 25 PERCENT OF REFUGEES WHILE UNHCR WOULD CARE FOR REMAINDER. ON BASIS OF THIS DECISION [ ] DRAWN UP A TENTATIVE BUDGET OF 8 MILLION DOLLARS. SOURCE OF FUNDS WILL BE AN APPEAL TO RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE. APPROXIMATELY 500,000 DOLLARS IS FOR EIGHT MOBILE MEDICAL TEAMS. THE REST IS FOR TENTS, BLANKETS, CLOTHES, SHOES AND SOAP.

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OTHER OFFICIALS OF RED CRESCENT SOCIETY AND WAS-  
SATISFIED THAT THEY COULD HANDLE THE JOB SATISFACTORILY.  
HE SAID RED CRESCENT SOCIETY LEADERSHIP CONSISTED OF  
SEVERAL RETIRED ARMY OFFICERS WITH LONG EXPERIENCE IN  
LOGISTICS. LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE COULD EASILY HANDLE  
REQUIREMENTS OF TRANSPORTING AND DISPENSING RELIEF  
SUPPLIES. LOCAL INDUSTRY COULD EVENTUALLY PROVIDE  
REQUIRED TENTS, BLANKETS, ETC. IN ADDITION, HE HAD BEEN  
TOLD THAT SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF AFGHAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL  
WERE ALREADY IN NEW DELHI, RAWALPINDI AND KARACHI  
WAITING TO BE HIRED. SAID ALL THAT WAS  
NEEDED WAS MONEY AND AN IMMEDIATE INFUSION OF SUPPLIES

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TO HANDLE THE SHORT-TERM CRISIS UNTIL RED CRESCENT  
SOCIETY AND GOP COULD DEVELOP SYSTEMATIC PROGRAM FOR  
HANDLING REFUGEES.

6. AS INDICATED REFTEL A, AND REITERATED IN MEETING WITH  
DEPUTY REFUGEE COORDINATOR LOY AND MISSION OFFICER  
JANUARY 20 THESE VIEWS NOT FULLY SHARED BY

INOTED THAT NON-REGISTERED REFUGEES WERE BIGGEST

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A 4x10 grid of black dots forming the word "BIOGRAPHY". The dots are arranged in four rows and ten columns, with some dots missing to create the letters.

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PROBLEM AND PRIMARY CONCERN OF ICRC AND REMARKED ON LONG DELAYS IN REGISTRATION.

7. [ ] IN MEETING WITH SAME USG REPS JANUARY 30, ALSO NOTED DELAY IN REGISTRATION OF REFUGEES ("3-4 WEEKS") BUT SAID GOP WAS DOING GOOD JOB AND CATCHING UP ON BACKLOG. THEY SAID LATEST REPORTS FROM ISLAMABAD INDICATED [ ] WAS "BESIEGED" BY APPLICANTS FOR RESETTLEMENT (AS OPPOSED TO RECENT CASELOAD OF ABOUT 15 PER DAY). THEY SAID FEW APPLICANTS HAD CLOSE TIES IN U.S., ALTHOUGH MOST WANTED TO GO THERE. [ ] FELT THEY SHOULD NOT BE ENCOURAGED AND THAT NO RESETTLEMENT SHOULD BE ATTEMPTED UNTIL MAGNITUDE OF CASELOAD WAS KNOWN. IN ANY EVENT, THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT WAS NOT SOLUTION FOR BULK OF REFUGEES NOR DID [ ] WISH TO GET INVOLVED IN UNRWA-TYPE ASSISTANCE EFFORT ALONG BORDERS. RATHER, PROPER COURSE WAS SELF-HELP EFFORT AWAY FROM BORDERS UNTIL RETURN TO AFGHANISTAN POSSIBLE.

8. [ ] NOTED THAT PRINCIPLE OF NO SETTLEMENT ON BORDERS HAD BEEN WRITTEN INTO [ ] ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR AFGHAN REFUGEES BUT WAS DIFFICULT TO ENFORCE. NOTING PROBLEMS THAT WOULD ARISE CONCERNING LAND TENURE, WATER

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9. REFERRING TO POSSIBLE USE OF USG-OWNED NON-CONVERTIBLE RUPEES FOR LOCAL PROCUREMENT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES (WHICH AMBASSADOR LOY HAD RAISED IN TALKS WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER HARTLING ON JANUARY 28)

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